

LESBIAN/GAY

NEXT MEETING: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14th, 1PM
FRIENDS MEETINGHOUSE, 6th & HERR STS., HARRISBURG

SUPPORT NETWORK

SPECIAL ELECTION

The special election for the 50th Senatorial District covering Erie, Crawford and Mercer Counties has been set for 31 March. The local Democratic and Republican committees will select their representative candidates to run in this election. The local Press feels that Ray Wilt of Mercer County has the Republican nomination. He has been the State Representative since 1969. Two more Republican potentials are State Representative Tom Swift of Crawford County and Mayor Michael Johnson of Corry, Erie County. Democratic nominations mentioned are Richard Ruhlman, Crawford County Commissioner, and Harold Bell of Mercer County. The Pennsylvania NOW Chapter and we (at our last meeting) concurred that this special election was probably not worth vigorously pursuing as no candidate currently deserves much of our support. This new Senator would serve Bud Dwyer's remaining two-year seat. It now appears it will be Republican Wilt vs. Democrat Ruhlman.

LAW CONFERENCE

A conference on the Law and the fight for Lesbian and Gay Rights will be held March 13-15 in Pittsburgh. Anyone interested in attending should write the National Lawyer's Guild, Gay Law Students, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Forbes and Bouquet Streets, Pittsburgh, Penna. 15260.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

A National Conference on Lesbian and Gay rights is being planned for April 24-26 in Los Angeles. An outgrowth of the 1979 March on Washington Committee, the conference hopes to form a national alliance of Lesbians and Gay activists and organizations. Workshops on grassroots organizing, films from the March on Washington and a cultural evening are also planned. For registration and administrative information write Boston March Committee, 529 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Ma. 02118 or call 617-247-3910.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

At our December meeting we talked of the 1981 White House Conference on Aging on November 30-4 December. This summer delegates will participate in various conference activities and community forums to shape the Pennsylvania policy platform. Previous White House Conferences (1961&71) were most productive in identifying gaps in services and stimulating public and private sector programs and policy initiatives. We encouraged members of the Lesbian and Gay Community to apply as delegates (the deadline was mid January). If and when anyone becomes aware that they are a delegate or feels that they would like to help contribute their thoughts, please let us know. We can help to coordinate this effort and help the delegates become more knowledgeable on the issues.

WELCOME

We would like to welcome the Erie Lesbian Gay Task Force and the Students at Clarion College. We will have more about these exciting organizations in our next Newsletter.

MEETINGS: PAST AND FUTURE

At the last Network meeting, we settled a number of administrative details to give us a solid foundation for political action work. Our mailing lists (for newsletters, action alerts, and enlisting new people) are rapidly expanding. Members are urged to continue to suggest friends and other groups for the list. A new dues structure, with a provision for low income members, was approved to ensure funds for lobbying and mobilizing activities. We authorized a "join-up" letter for newcomers and contributors. Rodger will formally ask several attorneys to provide ongoing legal advice. Everyone was urged to participate in upcoming ERA and reproductive rights actions. Finally, we familiarized ourselves with the new committee chairs in the General Assembly. The Network co-chairs will further develop this and other information into a lobbying booklet.

At the February meeting, we will roll up our sleeves to target and get moving on our next political steps. Join us!

(clip and mail to: PL/GSN PO Box 822, Federal Square Station, Harrisburg, Pa. 17108)

() I am enclosing \$20 for a one year membership and the Newsletter.

() I am enclosing \$12 suggested hardship or student membership and the Newsletter.

() I would like to support the work of the Network with a contribution.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Make check payable to PL/GSN (all information will be kept confidential)